REMARKS

This amendment responds to the office action mailed October 5, 2004. In the office action the Examiner:

- rejected claims 1-5, 7-20 and 22-24 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dobbs in view of Koppolu et al.; and

- rejected claims 6 and 21 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dobbs in view of Koppolu as applied to claims 1-5, 7-20 and 22-24 and further in view of Weinberger et al.

After entry of this amendment, the pending claims are: claims 1-24.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 7-20 and 22-24

As revised, the pending claims make clear that (1) the driver-test data structure associates specific documents with identified applications, as contrasted with associating documents types (e.g., a document type such as ".doc") with applications, (2) the testing of the printer driver includes opening a plurality of applications, which are distinct from the printer driver, and (3) the testing is automatic in that a plurality of specific documents identified in the driver-test data structure are automatically opened and printed using the test driver.

Taking the Koppolu reference first, the Windows registry features identified by the Examiner associate document types with applications. The registry does not associate specific documents with applications, and furthermore the registry does not associate specific documents with a print driver – for testing the print driver or for any other purpose. The distinction between document types and specific documents is relevant here because different documents of the same document type may be used to test different features of a print driver. Specific documents of the same type may contain different objects, features, options and so on.

Second, the Dobbs reference teaches how to identify an appropriate print mode for a medium (on which the printer prints), not how to test or debug a printer driver. While this

may incidentally involve some "testing", the testing by Dobbs does not involve automatically printing a plurality of specific documents identified in a driver-test data structure and does not involve using a plurality of applications (which are entities distinct from the print driver) identified in the same driver-test data structure that identified the specific documents.

Third, Dobbs nor Koppolu teach an automated process for opening a plurality of applications (which are distinct from the printer driver) to print documents so as to test a printer driver.

In summary, there are multiple aspects of the revised claims which patentably distinguish the revised claims over the combined teachings of Dobbs and Koppolu.
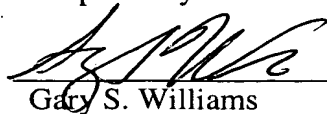

Claims 6 and 21

Weinberger teaches a method for incorporating additional indicia, e.g., "CONFIDENTIAL", into a document image generated by a print driver without modifying the source of the document image, e.g., a WORD format document, such that the indicia can appear in a printed copy of the document. Weinberger does not teach or suggest anything related to the testing of a print driver, and more specifically does not teach the features of the presently claimed invention identified above as not being present in either Dobbs or Koppolu or any combination thereof. Therefore, claims 6 and 21 are patentable over Dobbs in view of Koppolu as applied to claims 1-5, 7-20 and 22-24 and further in view of Weinberger et al.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider this application with a view towards allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Respectfully submitted,

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